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IAC AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EXCHANGES
STATUS REPORT

1 May 1958

*Items to be discussed at the next meeting to be held on Tuesday,
6 May 1958, at 2 p.m., Conference Room, East Building

I. EXCHANGE VISITS

A. General

*1. Briefing Procedures. In expectation of the heavy traffic in US delegations to the USSR, East-West Contacts Staff is engaged in establishing a procedure for briefing. This procedure follows fairly closely the recommendation set out in the "Standing Operating Procedures", IAC-D-103/4. The policy, behavior and area briefing will be handled by State with some assistance from CIA and USIA. The final element, the technical briefing, was the cause of some concern to EWC. A recent briefing provided an example of the situation EWC would like to avoid in the future. There were approximately eighteen persons present to brief the two-man delegation. Of the eighteen only four participated to the extent of more than a single remark, and more than half did not participate at all. It should be remembered that the IAC-D-103/4 recommended that the number of briefers be stringently limited for greater effectiveness. The mechanism which the Committee recommended was that one or two technical analysts should represent the Committee. This would necessitate a written or oral briefing of these analysts by other interested intelligence community components, prior to the briefing. Should delegations be large or interested in varied fields, a larger number of briefers may be useful. It is recommended that the members give consideration to this situation and be prepared to discuss any additional mechanisms they believe necessary.

*2. Interpreters as Members of Delegations. Recently the Soviet representatives have made representations to the Department to be permitted to attach interpreters to each delegation visiting the US. They have offered reciprocity in this regard. The Department will not permit this on a general policy basis but will make exceptions on an Ad Hoc basis. In previous actions the Committee has expressed the feeling that an interpreter accompanying the delegation must

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have a well grounded technical knowledge of the subject involved. This, in effect, makes him not an interpreter but a legitimate delegation member with technical competence. The Department of State has informally requested the intelligence viewpoint on this subject. This topic should be discussed at the meeting in an effort to provide this advice.

3. Long-Term Exchange of Educators. The Committee has shown limited interest in long-term exchanges to date, but it is considered advisable to call this development to the attention of the members. The attached memorandum outlines the plans of several universities for a reciprocal exchange of professors. There is some question about the advisability of an intelligence briefing for individuals engaged in such exchanges. The Secretariat will attempt to keep abreast of the situation in the event that questions arise.

6. Visits

*1. Visit to US of Soviet Crystallographist. The Ad Hoc Subcommittee, established following the 25 March meeting, has submitted a report which is attached. You will note that the report denies intelligence interest in the subject. Action should be taken so that a reply can be forwarded to the Department of State.

D. Exchanges

*1. The Anthropological Exchange. At the 6 February meeting the Committee made a preliminary finding to the effect that there was considerable interest from an intelligence viewpoint in a visit to the Soviet areas involved, and that more information would be needed for a final review. In the meantime the Department of State has secured additional information in the form of three letters from the sponsor. Since the conference in question takes place on 19 May in Copenhagen, it is imperative that the Committee furnish further advice immediately. The 16 April letter from Professor Rainey gives all the available details on his plan. It is requested that the members come prepared to formulate an intelligence opinion for the Department of State on this subject.

*2. Permafrost Exchange. The attached request for Committee review has been received from the Department of State. Because

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there are previous indications that there is general interest in this subject in the intelligence community, it was deemed advisable to make an effort to obtain some action this year. An Ad Hoc Subcommittee was appointed with nominees from interested members and a report was requested for the meeting. The Committee, however, had only one week's notice and may not be able to meet the deadline. Should the notice be insufficient and should interest prove high enough, action may be necessary between meetings.

3. (E-8) Electronics. An Aide Memoire has been presented to the Soviets, tying the Electronics Exchange to the IRE Production Techniques Conference, in June. Strong Soviet interest in the attendance at this Congress had been expressed. It is expected that some reply received from the Soviets be mid-May

4. (E-19) Steel. The Soviets to date have not replied to the 15 January Aide Memoire presenting the latest reciprocal plan. Because the steel industry executives taking part in the exchange must make firm plans, the Soviets have been given a 5 May deadline for their reply. Should they fail to reply, there is some doubt that the exchange will take place.

5. (E-100) Plastics. An Aide Memoire was presented to the Soviets about one month ago, and in this case also, a 5 May deadline for reply has been imposed. The Soviets have been reminded repeatedly of the necessity for reply. A report may be available by the time of the meeting on further developments.

6. (E-117) Electric Power. An Aide Memoire has been presented to the Soviets in this field also, but no reply has been received to date.

7. Medical Exchanges. State is in the process of preparing an Aide Memoire to be presented to the Soviets, recommending an Exchange in this field in June. The delegations would be made up of six members, and the itineraries have been reviewed by the technical consultant to the Committee.

8. Census Observers Exchange. The Department is in the process of preparing an Aide Memoire based on the Committee's

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recommendation on the Census Observers. It is anticipated that this will be presented during the coming week.

9. Agricultural Exchanges. The Soviets have agreed with the Department on an exchange of six delegations during 1958. Three sets of itineraries have been cleared by the Department of Defense and presented to the Soviets. No reply has been received to date.

10. Theoretical and Experimental Elasticity (Theory of Thin Shells - William Nash). The Soviet delegation arrived in the US on 12 April and is scheduled to leave on 1 May. The US delegation would like to arrive in the USSR on 20 May, but firm arrangements have not been made to date.

11. Third Annual US Housing Construction Exhibit, New York City. The Soviet delegation to this Exhibit was permitted to make a two-week tour of the US with the stipulation that they would permit an NAHB delegation to tour the USSR during June. The Soviet delegation is scheduled to leave the US on 12 May.

12. Ferroalloy Exchange. This Exchange was originally proposed by Union Carbide but has been assigned to an AIME Subcommittee for planning. Advice from the technical consultant to the Committee will be used in the preparation of the itinerary in the Soviet Union.

*13. Gravimetric Exchange. Consideration regarding a request from the Department of State was turned over to the IGY Working Group for reply. In the meantime the Department of State has received a draft letter which the sponsor wishes to send to the Soviets. The Department in turn would like an opinion from the IAC Ad Hoc Committee on Exchanges on an urgent basis. Copies of the letter will be circulated at the meeting.

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